

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10229

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY AND SISCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, XF

SUBJ: PROPOSED ISLAMAC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

REF: ISLAMABAD 10086

1. GOP LAW MINISTER PIRZADA TOLD DCM SOBER DURING FAREWELL MEETING NOVEMBER 26 THAT HE CONSIDERED HIS VISIT TO NUMBER OF MID-EAST CAPITALS (FROM WHICH HE HAD JUST RETURNED THAT DAY) TO HAVE BEEN QUITE USEFUL. THERE WAS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED ISLAMAC SUMMIT CONFERENCE, HE SAID. IN ACCORDANCE BHUTTO'S INSTRUCTIONS, PIRZADA HAD TALKED OF CONFERENCE IN LAHORE NOT EARLIER THAN LATE DECEMBER. PIRZADA THOUGHT CHANCES OF SUCCESS OF ISLAMAC SUMMIT HAD INCREASED NOW THAT ARAB SUMMIT WAS BEING BOYCOTTED BY SOME ARAB RADICAL STATES. HE ANTICIPATED THAT ARAB MODERATES WOULD BE BOLSTERED AT ISLAMAC SUMMIT BY NON-ARAB SUCH AS INDONESIA. PIRZADA ADDED THAT HIS RECEPTION IN ARAB CAPITALS HAD BEEN ENHANCED BY FEELINGS OF APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY PAKISTAN DURING RECENT WAR.

2. PIRZADA SAID HE PARTICULARLY WANTED US TO KNOW OF LONG TALK HE HAD WITH ASSAD IN DAMASCUS. HE SAID HE HAD SPOKEN TO ASSAD OF UNLIKELIHOOD THAT ARAB AIMS CONFIDENTIAL

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COULD BE ACHIEVED BY FORCE ALONE. HE HAD ENCOURAGED HIM TO WORK FOR HIS AIMS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS NOW THAT ARABS HAD SHOWN THEIR ABILITY TO PUT UP HONORABLE AND GOOD FIGHT. ASSAD HAD SPOKEN WITH PRIDE OF

PERFORMANCE OF SYRIAN FORCES. HE HAD GIVEN PIRZADA CLEAR IMPRESSION HE WAS READY TO MAKE PEACE, INCLUDING RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL, IF HE COULD GET HIS TERRITORIES BACK.

3. RECALLING SECRETARY'S TALKS HERE NOVEMBER 9, PIRZADA TOLD DCM THAT WITH BHUTTO'S BLESSING HE HAD ENCOURAGED ASSAD TO SEEK TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACTS WITH USG. PIRZADA HAD POINTED OUT SOVIET INABILITY TO ENGINEER PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. HE THOUGHT ASSAD WAS OPEN TO IDEA OF DIRECT CONTACT WITH US. THIS SUGGESTION WILL NOW BE PUT INTO THE PAK FONOFF CHANNELS WITH INTENTION OF RAISING IT MORE FORMALLY WITH SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

4. PIRZADA SAID THAT, IN LONG TALK IN CAIRO, HE HAD FOUND SADAT IMPRESSIVE, REASONABLE AND MODERATE. HE THOUGHT SADAT WAS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER PRESSURE FROM KING FEISAL TO DRIVE HARD BARGAIN. PIRZADA DESCRIBED HIS OWN TALK WITH FEISAL AS RATHER UNSATISFACTORY AND LOADED WITH STOCK POSITIONS SUCH AS SECRETARY SAID HERE HE HAD ENCOUNTERED DURING HIS OWN VISIT TO RIYADH.
BYROADE

CONFIDENTIAL

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